News Release



U.S. Department of Labor Office of Public Affairs Washington, D.C. USDL 06-1627 -NAT For Immediate Release September 21, 2006 Contact: Amy Louviere or Dirk Filpot Phone: (202) 693-9423 (202) 693-9406

U.S. Department of Labor's MSHA and National Mining Association Recognize 20 Mining Operations as "Sentinels of Safety"

Operations from Georgia and Mississippi are Repeat Winners

WASHINGTON - Twenty mining operations have been recognized for outstanding 2005 safety records in the annual Sentinels of Safety awards program jointly sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Mining Association.

For the second year in a row, J.M. Huber Corp.'s Sandersville Mill of Sandersville, Ga., and Mississippi Lime Co.'s Peerless Mine of Ste. Genevieve, Mo., have won the safety award in their respective categories.

Mining companies in various operational categories were recognized for achieving the greatest number of employee work-hours in 2005 without a fatal injury or an injury that resulted in lost workdays. To qualify, a company was required to compile at least 4,000 employee work hours during the year. This year's 20 winners worked a combined total of almost 2.5 million hours in 2005 without a lost-time injury.

"The winners of the 2005 Sentinels of Safety are truly champions of safety in the mining industry, and have played a significant role in the achievements this industry has made," said David G. Dye, MSHA's acting administrator. "They have demonstrated that in such a dynamic industry it is indeed possible to work safely, and to send employees home at the end of every shift in a healthy and safe condition."

Dye addressed representatives from the winning companies during an awards ceremony at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The Sentinels of Safety award is the oldest established award for occupational safety. The first one was announced by President Herbert Hoover – a former mining engineer – when he was Secretary of Commerce in 1925. The annual safety competition has continued to this day.

Attached is a complete list of first-place winners, along with mining operations with exceptional safety records

###



2005 Sentinels of Safety Award Winners

First place winners and their number of consecutive employee hours recorded in each of the sponsored mining categories are as follows:

Large Underground Coal Group

Skyline Mine #3, Canyon Fuel Company, Scofield, UT, 246,111 hours

Small Underground Coal Group

No.1 Wallins, Rex Coal Co. Inc., Grays Knob, KY, 55,077 hours

Large Surface Coal Group

Lee Ranch Mine, Lee Ranch Coal Company, Grants, NM, 444,739 hours

Small Surface Coal Group

Freelandville East Mine, Triad Mining, Inc. Edwardsport, IN, 34,178 hours

Large Coal Processing Facility Group

Brooks Run Processing Plant No. 1, Brooks Run Mining, L.L.C., Erbacon, WV, 121,562 hours

Small Coal Processing Facility Group

No. 1 Loading Dock, Harold Keene Coal Company Inc., Honaker, VA, 28,176 hours

Large Underground Metal Group

K-2 Mine Site, Kinross Gold Corp-Kettle River Operations, Republic, WA, 123,762 hours

Small Underground Metal Group

Billie Mine, American Borate Company, Death Valley, CA, 38,493 hours

Large Underground Nonmetal Group

Peerless Mine, Mississippi Lime Company, Ste. Genevieve, MO, 269,596 hours

Small Underground Nonmetal Group

Imperial Mine Quarry-Danby, Vermont Quarries Corporation, Danby, VT, 38,829 hours

Large Open Pit Group

South Fort Meade Mine, Mosaic Fertilizer, L.L.C., Ft. Meade, FL, 291,144 hours

Small Open Pit Group

State Line Resources, Inc., State Line Resources, Inc., Negley, OH, 15,660 hours.

Large Quarry Group

Tower Rock Stone Co. - Ste. Genevieve Quarry, Tower Rock Stone CO, Ste. Genevieve, MO, 207,514 hours

Small Quarry Group

Mitchell Quarry, Rogers Group, Inc., Mitchell, IN, 14,889 hours.

Large Dredge Group

Sorter's Road Sand & Gravel, Sunrise Materials, Porter, TX, 81,310 hours

Small Dredge Group

Central Arkansas Sand, Central Arkansas Sand, North Little Rock, AR, 11,473 hours

Large Bank or Pit Group

Taylor Plant, Badger Mining Corporation, Taylor, WI, 129,806 hours

Small Bank or Pit Group

New Paris Plant, Elkhart County Gravel, Inc., New Paris, IN, 10,190 hours

Large Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Sandersville Mill, J. M. Huber Corporation, Sandersville, GA, 304,157 hours

Small Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Florence Plant (CS33), Central Stone Company, Florence, IL, 25,960 hours

Other mining operations with exceptional safety records during 2005 included the following:

Large Underground Coal Group

Mine No. 3, Guest Mountain Mining Corporation, Appalachia, VA, 81,042 hours.

Mine No. 32, XMV, Inc., Caretta, WV, 80,867 hours.

Bear Canyon # 4, C. W. Mining Company, Huntington, UT, 67,780 hours.

Mine No. 5, North Fork Coal Corporation, Partridge, KY, 67,501 hours.

Small Underground Coal Group

No.18, Harlan Cumberland Coal Company, L.L.C., Evarts, KY, 53,170 hours. Mine No.1, Exeter Coal Corporation, Appalachia, VA, 51,081 hours. K-3, Harlan Cumberland Coal Company, L.L.C., Louellen, KY, 47,766 hours. #2, Linn Branch Coal, Inc., Fedscreek, KY, 47,385 hours.

Large Surface Coal Group

Falkirk Mine, Falkirk Mining Company, Underwood, ND, 436,142 hours.
Black Mesa Mine, Peabody Western Coal Company, Kayenta, AZ, 420,898 hours.
Spring Creek Coal Company, Spring Creek Coal Company, Decker, MT, 293,090 hours.
Viking Mine, Black Beauty Coal Company, Montgomery, IN, 253,796 hours.

Small Surface Coal Group

Alliance Mine No. 1, Hope Coal Company, Inc., Helena, AL, 33,945 hours. Highwall Miner No. 1, Bundy Auger Mining, Inc., Jodie, WV, 33,101 hours. Sugarloaf Mine. No. 1, Locust Grove, Inc. Prestonsburg, KY, 32,813 hours. Island Creek, Wolf Pen Coal Corp., Phyllis, KY, 32,211 hours.

Large Coal Processing Facility Group

Toms Fork Loadout, Catenary Coal Company, L.L.C., Eskdale, WV, 114,071 hours. Willow Lake Central Preparation Plant, Big Ridge Inc., Equality, IL, 111,260 hours. Big Mountain Preparation Plant, Pine Ridge Coal Company, L.L.C., Prenter, WV, 100,631 hours. Sands Hill Strip, Sands Hill Coal Co., Inc., Hamden, OH, 89,876 hours.

Small Coal Processing Facility Group

Mingo No. 2, Hampden Coal Company, Inc., Gilbert, WV, 27,561 hours. Henderson Koch Ingledue, Buckeye Industrial Mining Co., Minerva, OH, 26,336 hours. Freelandville East, Triad Mining, Inc, Edwardsport, IN, 24,836 hours. Keystone Cleaning Plant, Keystone Coal Mining Company, Elderton, PA, 23,060 hours.

Large Underground Metal Group

Leeville, Newmont U.S.A. Limited, Carlin, NV, 56,400 hours. Fletcher Mine, Doe Run Company, Bunker, MO, 256,281 hours.

Small Underground Metal Group

Cash Mine, Mount Royale Ventures, L.L.C., Boulder, CO, 19,752 hours. Pinson UG, Small Mine Development, L.L.C., Golconda, NV, 15,872 hours. Homestake Mine, Homestake Mining Company, Lead, SD,13,320 hours. C-SM-18, Tomcat Mining Corp., Naturita, CO, 12,103 hours.

Large Underground Nonmetal Group

Maysville Mine, Carmeuse Lime and Stone Inc., Maysville, KY, 243,579 hours. #273 Weeping Water Mine, Martin Marietta Materials, Inc., Weeping Water, NE, 146,295 hours. Detroit Salt Mine, Detroit Salt Co., L.L.C., Detroit, MI, 100,503 hours. Sterling Materials, Sterling Materials, Verona, KY, 92,099 hours.

Small Underground Nonmetal Group

Marble Hill Mine, O-N Minerals (Filler Products) Company, Ellijay, GA, 38,777 hours. Hockley Mine, United Salt Corporation, Hockley, TX, 38,650 hours. Galena Platteville Mine, Conco Western Stone Co., North Aurora, IL, 37,570 hours. Petersburg Mine, East Fairfield Coal Co. - Limestone Division, Petersburg, OH, 36,623 hours.

Large Open Pit Group

Enoch Valley Mine, Degerstrom Ventures, Soda Springs, ID, 129,778 hours. B P B Gypsum, Inc., B P B Gypsum, Inc., Nashville, AR, 120,778 hours,. Phelps Dodge Miami Inc, Phelps Dodge Miami Inc, Claypool, AZ, 113,141 hours. Iluka Resources Inc., Iluka Resources Inc., Green Cove Springs, FL, 111,498 hours.

Small Open Pit Group

Lewis Mine, NYCO Minerals, Inc., Lewis, NY, 14,500 hours. IMV Nevada, IMV Nevada, Amargosa Valley, NV, 14,417 hours. Denton Pits, Acme Brick Company, Denton, TX, 14,257 hours. Kings Town, Inc., Kings Town, Inc. Kingston, NY, 14,179 hours.

Large Quarry Group

Bridgeport Stone Plant, TXI Operations L.P., Bridgeport, TX, 199,195 hours.
Gregg Mine, Florida Crushed Stone, Brooksville, FL, 135,930 hours.
Apple Tree, Harley Gray Stone Company, Drake, AZ, 126,207 hours.
Cave In Rock Quarry, Martin Marietta Materials, Inc., Cave In Rock, IL, 118,142 hours.

Small Quarry Group

Lake Placid Green Quarry, Cold Spring Granite Company, Ausable Fork, NY 14,884 hours. Lake Cumberland Stone, Hinkle Contracting Corporation, Burnside, KY, 14,860 hours. P. Stone Quarry & Mill, P. Stone, Inc., Jersey Shore, PA, 14,833 hours. Norburg, Wade Agricultural Products, Inc. La Cygne, KS, 14,830 hours.

Large Bank or Pit Group

Arena Plant, Hanson Aggregates, Garwood, TX, 120,851 hours. Dupont Pit, Pioneer Aggregates, Dupont, WA, 120,851 hours. Columbus Plant 3, The Olen Corporation, Columbus, OH, 117,623 hours. Texas Gravel Inc., Texas Gravel Inc., Edinburg, TX, 101,142 hours.

Small Bank or Pit Group

945 Cone Plant, Halliday Sand & Gravel, Inc., Houghton Lake, MI, 10,186 hours. Deer Creek Quarry, Deer Creek Rock company, Inc., Porterville, CA, 10,143 hours. #404 Guaranteed Wash Plant, Southern Minnesota Construction Company, Inc., Mankato, MN, 10,115 hours.

R & R Mining, L.L.C., R & R Concrete, Inc. Las Cruces, NM, 10,084 hours. Watt's Pit, T & M Sand & Gravel, Inc., Gore, OK, 10,084 hours.

Large Dredge Group

Arkhola Dredge & Plant, Arkhola Sand & Gravel Company, Fort Smith, AR, 59,808 hours. QM-2, Quality Materials, Inc, Conroe, TX, 57,902 hours. Brazos Plant, Hanson Aggregates, Brookshire, TX, 50,463 hours. Lake Wales Sand Mine, Rinker Materials Of Florida Inc, Lake Wales, FL, 49,016 hours.

Small Dredge Group

Sahara Sand of Franklin, Sahara Sand, Williamstown, NJ, 11,341 hours. Guthrie Sand Plant, Dolese Bros. Co., Guthrie, OK, 11,278 hours. Newcastle # 1, Schwarz Sand, L.L.C., Norman, OK, 11,266 hours. Letart 1, Letart, Corp., Gallipolis Ferry, WV, 11,253 hours.

Large Mill Group

Capitol Cement Plant, Capitol Aggregates LTD., San Antonio, TX, 253,498 hours. Reedy Creek Div. Plant, Thiele Kaolin Company, Wrens, GA, 226,429 hours. Quarry Mine, J.M. Huber Corp., Quincy, IL, 200,639 hours. Quincy Plant and Mines, Engelhard Corp, Quincy, FL, 191,493 hours.

Small Mill Group

Curtain Gap Quarry, Hanson Aggregates Pennsylvania, Inc., Bellefonte, PA, 25,918 hours. Norris Aggregate Products Co.- Plant #70, Norris Asphalt Paving Company, Bethany, MO, 25,894 hours.

Oldham County Stone, Rogers Group, Inc. Crestwood, KY, 25,825 hours. Cantera Dorado, Inc., Cantera Dorado, Inc. Vega Alta, PR, 25,571 hours.